



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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13 November 1989**

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Ethiopia

Rome Peace Talks End; More Talks Planned for Dec

AB1211075689 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 12 Nov 89

[Text] Representatives of the Ethiopian Government and rebels from the northern province of Tigray ended their preliminary peace talks in Rome yesterday and agreed to meet again next month. The December talks, also in Rome, will continue to set the agenda and procedural framework for full-scale negotiations to end the civil war in northern Ethiopia. A government delegate said they discussed everything on the agenda and agreed to meet again on December 12. A spokesman for the rebel Tigray People's Liberation Front, TPLF, said both sides agreed on procedures. He did not elaborate but officials have said the delegations discussed who should chair full-scale peace talks between them. Italian Government officials observed the talks.

Mengistu Speaks to Planning Group on War Effort

EA1011193489 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] A meeting of the planning group in charge of the national revolutionary campaign was held at the Grand Palace today. The task of the group is to plan and facilitate ways of safeguarding our country's unity and revolutionary gains and to coordinate in various ways the efforts being made promptly to arrest the alarming and destructive situation in the northern part of our country. Members of the Politburo of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee, ministers, commissioners, representatives of mass organizations and professional associations, religious leaders and prominent personalities (?belong) to the group.

Comrade President Mengistu Haile Mariam briefed the meeting on the establishment and functions of the group. He said that the threat to the security and independence of our motherland was more alarming and dangerous than ever before. He noted that the broad masses of Ethiopia have recently been expressing their anger at various forums. He said they were determined to make sacrifices for the unity and pride of their motherland.

After dragging the inhabitants of Tigray territory into a saddening and destructive situation, beginning on 31 August 1989, the Tigray tribal group expanded its arrogant acts into [words indistinct] and inflicted human and material losses. He add that the Ethiopian people have recognized that the group is threatening the existence of our country in general. They clearly understand the potentially dangerous situation it could create in future.

Comrade President Mengistu noted that it was the responsibility of members of the group to harness the determined willingness and energy of the people and to lead the campaign in a centralized and fruitful manner. He further stressed that, if we properly discharge our

collective and individual responsibilities out of love and respect for our country and people, there is no doubt at all that we will be victorious.

Further on Mengistu Speech

EA1011211189 Addis Ababa Domestic Service
in Amharic 1800 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] A meeting of the planning group in charge of the national revolutionary campaign was held at the Grand Palace today. The task of the group is to plan and facilitate ways of safeguarding our country's unity and revolutionary gains and to coordinate in various ways the efforts being made promptly to arrest the alarming and destructive situation in the northern part of our country. Members of the Politburo of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] central committee, ministers, commissioners, representatives of mass organizations and professional associations, religious leaders and prominent personalities (?belong) to the group.

The meeting opened with a speech by Comrade President Mengistu Haile Mariam. The structure of the planning group was approved. Comrade Fiseha Desta, member of the Politburo of the WPE Central Committee and vice president of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, spoke about the structural set-up of the group. The activities of the group and the current situation were discussed at the meeting, which is being attended by members of the Politburo of the WPE Central Committee, ministers, commissioners, representatives of mass organizations, religious leaders and prominent personalities.

Comrade Fiseha Desta, the secretary general of the group, said that it was answerable to the Politburo of the WPE Central Committee. It will have an executive committee and 11 subsections. Other committees will be set up in autonomous and administrative areas and [words indistinct] at all levels.

Earlier on, Comrade President Mengistu detailed the activities of the group and issued instructions.

Command Center Against TPLF Established

AB1011133789 Paris AFP in English 1325 GMT
10 Nov 89

[Text] Addis Ababa, Nov 10 (AFP)—The Ethiopian authorities on Friday set up a command center to coordinate a campaign "to resist and crush" the rebel Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), Radio Ethiopia reported.

State Vice-President Fisseha Desta, an ethnic Tigrayan, was named secretary-general of the commander center, the radio said. He is also a member of the ruling Workers' Party Politburo and a former lieutenant-colonel in the Army.

The TPLF has been blamed for "senseless" violence and "terrorism" in northern Ethiopia's Welo and Gonder Provinces in the intensified civil war since August 31.

There were reports on Thursday [9 November] that the TPLF had penetrated as far south as northern Shewa, then pushed back.

The radio said members of the party Central Committee, government officials, religious leaders and prominent personalities were among members of the new command.

Its precise functions were not defined but the radio added that the body would have 11 unspecified spheres of action and be set up all the way to the grass-roots, or Kebele, level.

Talks have been going on between the Ethiopian Government and TPLF delegations in Rome since November 4, details of which have not emerged so far.

'Grass-Roots' Meetings Held

*AB1311114089 Paris AFP in English 1028 GMT
13 Nov 89*

[Text] Addis Ababa, Nov 13 (AFP)—More than 280 grass-roots meetings took place throughout the Ethiopian capital Sunday [12 November] to discuss plans for driving back rebels of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) threatening two northern provinces.

The ruling Workers' Party Central Committee and the National Shengo, or Parliament, which met in emergency session two weeks ago, called for mobilization and described the threat a "grave danger" to national unity and security.

The TPLF has penetrated deep into northern Gonder and Welo Provinces since renewed fighting between the rebels and the Ethiopian Army erupted on August 31, with the government accusing it of committing "atrocities," plunder and widescale destruction.

Sunday's meetings in 285 urban dwellers' associations (Kebeles) through Addis Ababa were called by neighbourhood officials that comprise the grass-roots level of urban administrations. Committee [words indistinct] community elders.

Citizens set up nominating committees charged with finding recruits to fill the ranks of both the regular army and people's militia in their district.

The district committees appear to have become the neighbourhood arm of a national revolutionary national campaign centre set up Friday [10 November] to coordinate the planned counter-offensive "to resist and crush" the Tigray rebellion.

The centre accountable to the party Politburo, will be headed by state vice-president, Fisseha Desta, an ethnic Tigray. The centre appears to be the civilian wing of the government's war effort against the rebels.

Meanwhile, preliminary peace talks in Rome between the TPLF and government representatives reportedly ended at the weekend, with both sides agreeing to pursue negotiations in December.

Official Says TPLF Driven Back Into Were Ilu

*AB0911174289 Paris AFP in English 1646 GMT
9 Nov 89*

[Text] Addis Ababa, Nov 9 (AFP)—Ethiopian authorities on Thursday indirectly conceded that rebels of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) had penetrated as far south as northern Shewa, the province in which the capital Addis Ababa lies.

An administrator in Menz and Gishe sub-province told audiences in an interview carried Thursday by Radio Ethiopia that inhabitants of Set Amba [placename as received] had driven back TPLF infiltrators into Were Ilu in the southern tip of Welo.

This is the first reference to the war extending beyond the provinces of Welo and Gonder.

The sub-province is located about 300 kms (185 miles) north of the Ethiopian capital. The TPLF had previously claimed to have seized both Were Ilu and Mehal Meda in Menz and Gishe sub-province.

The administrator said "men and women of all ages were involved in the recent battle to repulse the guerillas, the armed militia using firepower while the unarmed population tipping rocks into the deep gorges being crossed by the rebels."

Menz and Gishe has one of the most difficult terrains in the country, with deep gullies separating chains of forbidding mountains and plateau.

Support for the government's call to mobilize is being reported daily from towns and villages across the country.

Preliminary talks between the government and the TPLF to set an agenda for future peace negotiations, opened in Rome on Saturday [4 November].

TPLF Reports Troop Movements

*EA1011161889 (Clandestine) Voice of the Tigray
Revolution in Amharic 0400 GMT 10 Nov 89*

[Excerpts] It has been learned that the enemy is moving forces from northern Shewa and the Dese area towards the (?town) of Were Ilu, which was liberated by the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front. It is endeavoring to gather forces from (Meda) and (Maraya) in Merhabete area and from Robit in Menzna Gishe area. Forces from areas south of Dese are also being gathered.

As you know, at this particular time, when the enemy is making campaign preparations, peace talks between the Tigray People's Liberation Front [TPLF] and the Dergue delegation are underway in Rome. However, since 4 November 1989, when the talks started, the Dergue government has made no statement whatsoever to the Ethiopian people about the peace talks. The main reason why the Dergue has kept quiet about the talks is to avoid

more opposition to its current mobilization from the Ethiopian people, who are struggling for justice. As various sources make clear, the Ethiopian people are opposing the dergue in different areas.

Though the Dergue does not want to publicize the development of the peace talks, news is being disseminated in other ways. The Dergue's concealment of the peace talks from the Ethiopian people and its continuing preparations for a campaign to mobilize [words indistinct] is evidence of its war policy and lack of enthusiasm for peace.

Kenya

Government Orders Screening of Somalis

EA0911195089 Nairobi Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 9 Nov 89

[Text] The government has decided to screen and, therefore, identify all persons of Somali ethnic origin of 18 years and above. The exercise, which will run for the next few weeks, aims at identifying any illegal infiltration of aliens into the country.

A statement from the office of the president states that the exercise, which starts from Monday [13 November] next week, will involve a task force headed by the provincial commissioner, Rift Valley, Mr Yusuf Haji. The statement said that 51 screening centers have been established in various urban centers and other Vant rural districts, such as Wajir, Garissa, and Mandera [eastern and north-eastern Kenya].

Those affected have been asked to present themselves personally before the nearest screening team and must carry with them a national identity card, a passport, for those who hold one, and a birth certificate, for those who have one. The government advises that it will be an offense under the Registration of Persons Act, Cap 107, for any member of the Somali ethnic community to fail to appear before a legally established team within 3 weeks.

Foreign Minister Ouko Hails Relations With U.S.

EA0811100189 Nairobi KNA in English 1515 GMT
7 Nov 89

[Text] Nairobi, 7 Nov (KNA)—The minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Dr Robert Ouko, has hailed relations between Kenya and the United States.

The minister was receiving in his office the visiting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Mr Herman Cohen.

Dr Ouko and Mr Cohen reviewed bilateral matters between the two countries, and the need for continued cooperation. Dr Ouko said the United States of America has given valuable assistance to Kenya over the years, particularly in the fields of education, agriculture and commodity aid. The minister, however, called on the

U.S. to give more assistance in the establishment of small enterprises, which would create more jobs.

On international issues, Mr Cohen and Dr Ouko emphasized the need for peaceful negotiations in settling conflicts. Dr Ouko told the U.S. assistant secretary of state that President Moi was a peacemaker, who abhorred bloodshed, and has gone a long way in for peaceful solutions to conflicts.

Mr Cohen assured Dr Ouko of continued U.S. economic assistance to Kenya wherever possible. He described Kenya as an island of peace in this part of the world.

Mr Cohen also thanked Kenya in allowing food aid to enter into southern Sudan to alleviate starvation, in what has come to be called "Lifeline Sudan" Operation.

Somalia

Siad Barre Says Free Elections Planned for 1990

AB1311062689 Paris AFP in English 2255 GMT
12 Nov 89

[Text] Cairo, Nov 12 (AFP)—Somalia's President Mohamed Siad Barre has said free elections will be held in the country in 1990, according to an interview he gave to the Egyptian Daily AL-AHRAM published in its Monday edition.

In the interview, Mr Siad Barre said that "all political currents will be able to express themselves and share power".

A commission is currently preparing amendments to the constitution to allow for a multiparty system, the president reportedly said. He has already announced that multipartism would be introduced.

Mr Siad Barre said that armed opposition group Somali National Movement (SNM), active in the north of the country, could take part in the next elections, if "it has a programme and does not solely seek to satisfy tribal interest".

The elections, he said would be held "in the course of 1990".

The Somali president conceded in the interview that his calls to the opposition to "open a serious and constructive dialogue have not yet met with a positive response". But instructions had been given to Somali embassies to "open a dialogue without preconditions with opponents wishing to do so".

Mr Siad Barre also said he believed his rule had overcome "ignorance", but not hunger or disease, and appealed to Arab investors to engage in "land improvement, fisheries and exploitation of livestock resources" in Somalia.

Somali National Radio: North-South Road Cut*EA111111489 (Clandestine) Radio of the Somali National Movement in Somali 1500 GMT 10 Nov 89*

[Text] A report from our correspondent in Hiiraan Region says that Somali National Movement [SNM] units recently attacked the heights between (Sablo) and (Farahjer), thus cutting the road connecting Matabaan and Beledweyn. The report adds that the road is still in the hands of SNM fighters and closed to all traffic. The enemy has not been able to open the road, which connects the north and south of the country. The SNM fighters suffered no casualties during the attack.

Uganda**Troops Surround University; Closure Expected***AB1011160089 Paris AFP in English 1539 GMT 10 Nov 89*

[Text] Kampala, Nov 10 (AFP)—Troops and riot police surrounded Uganda's Makerere University here Friday [10 November] ahead of an expected announcement of closure of the university in response to a students' strike.

An estimated 7,000 students at east Africa's oldest university have been boycotting classes since October 30 over the withdrawal of their allowances.

By Friday morning all entrances to the university were sealed off and troops, some of them in armoured vehicles, patrolled the campus. Students were not allowed to move out of their halls of residence.

Closure of the once-prestigious university had been widely expected since a students' general assembly Thursday rejected President Yoweri Museveni's order to call off the boycott.

No formal order to close the institution had yet been made but minister of state for education John Ntimba said the government would issue a statement "at an appropriate time."

An official of the Ministry of Education, who preferred anonymity, said all university students would be required to vacate the campus by Saturday.

Government and university officials were making arrangements Friday to hand out money for students to travel to their homes.

Ministry of Education officials said all students had been expelled and those wishing to be readmitted would be required to sign documents accepting the government's decision to withdraw allowances.

The strike was prompted by the government's decision last August to withdraw all allowances for books, upkeep and travel from students in university and at a dozen other teacher, technical and business colleges.

The measure was introduced in line with a new "cost-sharing" policy introduced to cut government spending.

Police sources said in Kampala Friday that other higher education institutions affected by the measures had also gone on strike.

Makerere University 'Closed'*EA1011193989 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 10 Nov 89*

[Text] The government has temporarily closed Makerere University campus by sending all students home. A government statement said the move followed the [word indistinct] students' arrogant behavior. The students refused to go to classes in spite of the fact that various meetings with government officials had taken place.

Lately, at a meeting between President Museveni and student leaders, the president told the students to resume classes while their cases are looked into. Instead of going back to classes the students arrogantly demanded a written statement from the president, signed by him and with official seals, guaranteeing that their demands will be met, before, according to them, going back to the lecture room.

Contrary to the impression given by the students at Makerere, not all allowances were abolished. Even the government has been conducting discussions with them on those abolished and has agreed to reinstate some of the essential ones, while others were still being reviewed. It should be pointed out that pocket money, transport money and such other allowances are not a right, but may only be paid if the economy can afford it, among other competing needs of society and education.

In connection, the government pointed out the following:—that in Uganda education at university and other such institutions is free.

—that the tuition, books, paper, pens, accommodation and (?feeding) are provided, plus pocket money and other allowances.

This does not happen in other parts of Africa and, especially, the developed countries which have more resources. Uganda suffers from a system whereby very few people are expensively educated at institutions of higher learning surrounded by a large number of people who never get a chance to go to school at all. The NRM [National Resistance Movement] is committed to reversing this trend and to [word indistinct] education for all, but is currently limited by resources. Nobody will stop the movement from achieving this goal.

Secondly, the government is committed to restructuring the university, streamlining the administration, and ensuring that more students are admitted to Makerere University, which will inevitably entail reviewing the existing facilities, physical and financial, and aiming at utilizing them optimally.

Government To Recognize Namibian Poll Results

*MB1211091289 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0900 GMT 12 Nov 89*

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says that the South African Government is ready to recognize the results of the election. Mr Botha was responding to the declaration by the UN special representative, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, that the election had been free and fair.

Counting of the votes in the election for a constituent assembly in South-West Africa/Namibia begins at 0700 tomorrow morning at 24 centers in the territory. The results in Ovambo, Kavango, and Windhoek are expected to be known last because of the large number of voters in these areas.

Pik Botha Makes Statement

*MB1211092289 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0918 GMT 12 Nov 89*

[Text] Pretoria Nov 12 SAPA—The South African Government stood ready to recognize the results of the Namibian election as certified by UN special representative Mr Martti Ahtisaari and was ready to work constructively with the future Namibian government, Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Pik Botha said on Sunday.

"The most important phase of the independence process of Namibia has come to a successful conclusion," Mr Botha said in a statement in Pretoria.

"As far as I am concerned it ends the international dispute that has raged for more than forty years since the inception of the United Nations, and which, aside from apartheid, constituted the most important line of attack against South Africa.

"I am grateful the elections proceeded as they did, so that Mr Ahtisaari could declare that the electoral process fulfilled the requirements of Resolution 435."

Mr Botha expressed his gratitude to Mr Ahtisaari and his staff for their co-operation that had enabled the election to proceed as smoothly as was humanly possible.

"Mr Ahtisaari and I have been working towards the execution of a peace plan for Namibia for eleven years. I have come to know him as a man of integrity and Namibia can be glad that such a person could play umpire during the difficult final phase of the electoral process," said Mr Botha.

Mr Botha said three important phases remained: the counting of the votes, which would hopefully be completed by next Wednesday [15 November], the composition of the 72-member constituent assembly who would write the constitution for an independent Namibia, and independence for the territory.

"The South African Government trusts that these three phases will be concluded peacefully, and wishes success to all the parties that will work on the constitution," he said.

South Africa was entering a new phase where the emphasis would be on economic co-operation, and where ideological differences would be pushed to the background.

"Namibia's independence is of great historic importance for the whole of Africa—it is the last country of the colonial era to gain independence.

"I am thankful that the election in this particular country, with its many contrasts and turbulent history, took place peacefully," Mr Botha said.

Government Lifts Restriction Order on Mbeki

*MB1011091189 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0907 GMT 10 Nov 89*

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 10 SAPA—The restriction order on former security prisoner and Rivonia trialist Govan Mbeki has been lifted, the office of the minister of law and order confirmed on Friday.

The decision takes effect immediately.

Mr Mbeki, who lives in Port Elizabeth, was released from prison under a restriction order about two years ago.

A spokesman for Mr Adriaan Vlok said the order had been lifted after "careful consideration", SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reports.

Police Spokesman Confirms Report

*MB1011094589 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0938 GMT 10 Nov 89*

[Text] Pretoria Nov 10 SAPA—A senior SA [South African] Police spokesman confirmed on Friday that restriction orders have been lifted on veteran African National Congress leader Mr Govan Mbeki, 79.

The orders were slapped on him shortly after his release from Robben Island two years ago after serving more than 20 years in jail for treason.

The lifting of the restrictions means that Mr Mbeki is now free to speak out and be quoted.

Mbeki Urges Zambian Talks With ANC

*MB1011110089 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1055 GMT 10 Nov 89*

[By Neil Oelofse]

[Text] Port Elizabeth Nov 10 SAPA—Concrete plans are afoot for eight African National Congress [ANC] leaders inside South Africa to travel to Lusaka for talks with the banned organisation's executive body.

Govan Mbeki, speaking to the press on Friday for the first time since being restricted shortly after his release from prison two years ago, said he and the seven other ANC leaders released last month had applied for passports. Their intention was to travel to the ANC's Lusaka

headquarters to consult the national executive on the political situation in South Africa. Mr Mbeki, 79, told SAPA during a telephonic interview from his home in Port Elizabeth.

He said he was "naturally very happy" at the lifting of his restrictions, which for two years prevented him from talking to the press, leaving the magisterial district of his home without permission and attending gatherings.

A spokesman for Walter Sisulu, one of the seven leaders released in October, confirmed on Friday that all seven were in the process of applying for their passports.

Mr Mbeki's lawyer, Priscilla Jana, said she had applied to have his restrictions lifted in view of the fact that the other seven leaders had not been restricted on their release.

A spokesman for Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok said Mr Mbeki's restrictions had been lifted "after careful consideration".

Mr Mbeki said he had no immediate plans for his new-found freedom, but it could be expected that he would resume political involvement, "especially with my former comrades of the Rivonia trial".

Unless it was necessary, he would not be travelling to Johannesburg in the near future.

Mr Mbeki said he had submitted his application for a passport on Tuesday this week, before the news that his restrictions were to be lifted had reached him.

He had intended applying for the permission required in terms of the restriction orders to travel to Lusaka as soon as the passport had been issued, he said.

Mr Mbeki was a school teacher and newspaper editor before his arrest in Johannesburg in 1963. He also published two books on black politics in South Africa.

Viljoen To Meet Leaders on Black Representatives

*MB0911160889 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1558 GMT 9 Nov 89*

[Text] Pretoria Nov 9 SAPA—The minister of constitutional development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, is to hold talks on Friday [10 November] with leaders and governments of self-governing territories.

In a statement in Pretoria on Thursday, the minister's department said the talks—on constitutional negotiation—would centre on:

- "Methods of determining black representatives for a national forum for the negotiation of a new constitution.
- "Details of the workings of the negotiation process required for a new constitution.
- "Consideration of the effect of the government's approach to a new constitution on the present system of self-governing territories."

The statement said Dr Viljoen's first talks on Friday would be with the chief minister and cabinet of Kwa-Zulu, followed next week by a visit to KwaNdebele, KaNgwane, Gazankulu and Lebowa.

Pik Botha Arrives in Umtata To Meet Holomisa

*MB0911110589 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1054 GMT 9 Nov 89*

[Text] SA [South African] Foreign Minister Pik Botha and his entourage arrived in Umtata on Thursday morning for talks with the head of Transkei's military council, General Bantu Holomisa, and members of his government.

SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reports Mr Botha was accompanied by Foreign Affairs Chief Director Rusty Evans and the SA ambassador to Transkei, Mr Gert Terblanche.

Gen Holomisa will be assisted by all members of the military council as well as members of the Council of Ministers.

Holomisa: Unbanning Not Mentioned

*MB0911161589 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 9 Nov 89*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] General Holomisa, the leader of the nominally independent homeland of Transkei, in South Africa, is turning out to be something of a maverick, getting up to all sorts of things that could get under the skin of the government in Pretoria.

He has already lifted the state of emergency, proposed a referendum on the territory's relations with South Africa, and, just as South Africa's Foreign Minister Pik Botha was visiting Transkei, he has announced the unbanning of more than a dozen anti-apartheid organizations, only stopping short of the ANC [African National Congress] and PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress]. So, how did Mr Botha's visit go?

On the line, Elizabeth Ohene asked Gen Holomisa how he had got on with the South African foreign minister:

[Begin recording] [Holomisa] I think our meeting was fruitful.

We were able to tell each other the objectives and aims because it was the third time that he has visited this country under the military government.

[Ohene] Did he come rather angry with you? Did he feel that you had been naughty in some of the pronouncements and actions you have been taking? Did he come reading you the riot act?

[Holomisa] I would be telling you a big lie if I said he was angry. In fact, he was receptive, a well known man, a man whom I have always known. He was not different from the person I have met before and, depending on the

explanation I gave to him, because we... [changes thought] he first briefed us on the southern African political changes, and then I had an opportunity, as well, to brief him on the progress we have made since take-over, as well as the political changes which have taken place recently in southern Africa, vis-a-vis [word indistinct] over to Transkei.

[Ohene] You have just unbanned about 15 or 16 organizations. Did he have anything to say about that?

[Holomisa] No, he did not mention anything on that. Instead, he said they are considering to move forward with the negotiations. They are considering to unban certain organizations, as well, in South Africa but, seemingly, on their part, I think they have still a few preconditions or assurances they want from organizations like the ANC and PAC. (?like) the use of violence, etcetera. So, on our part, it did not form part of the meeting or debate but, in briefing him, we stated categorically that we need people who belong to many political [word indistinct] in Transkei, like the supporters of ANC and PAC. We also need people who are proindependence and some against, and we need other people who work in South Africa and say they will not abandon the world they have created over the years. [end recording]

Botha: Unbannings Pose No Problem

*MB0911190789 Johannesburg Television Service
in English 1800 GMT 9 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha says Transkei's unbanning of 15 political organizations poses no problems for South Africa.

In the first official South African visit to the country since military rule, Mr Botha briefed Military Council Chairman Major General Bantu Holomisa on recent political developments in South Africa, Namibia, and Angola. [passage omitted]

De Klerk Briefs Journalists on AWB Meeting

*MB0911151289 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1503 GMT 9 Nov 89*

[Text] Pretoria Nov 9 SAPA--The state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk, on Thursday invited the leaders of two rightwing Afrikaner organisations to participate in the constitutional electoral process to show what support they have.

Addressing a press conference at the Union Building after meeting a delegation led by Mr Eugene Terreblanche, leader of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [AWB], and Mr Robert van Tonder, leader of the Boerestaatsparty, Mr de Klerk said "I sincerely believe they do not represent a substantial number of people in South Africa".

Mr de Klerk said the talks—which had been held at their request—had taken place in a "calm atmosphere".

They had put their "well-known" views for a Boer state comprising the Transvaal, [Orange] Free State and Northern Natal, while he and the minister of constitutional development and of national education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, had put the "well-known" policy of the National Party, as enunciated in this year's general election.

As he left the Union Buildings, Mr Terreblanche, in a brief comment to waiting journalists, said "we put our case clearly".

He said he would elaborate on the talks at a public meeting in Boksburg on Thursday night.

Mr van Tonder said: "We were well received. We put our point of view."

Mr de Klerk said a "fairly theoretical discussion" had been held from a constitutional law point of view.

He had also expressed his concern at the threats of violence emanating from certain rightwing quarters, and had stressed the government's opposition to all forms of violence, whether from right or left.

He had stressed the government's commitment to peaceful negotiation.

"I laid particular emphasis on the fact that they (the AWB and the Boerestaatsparty) are free within the present constitution to propagate their views through normal electoral process."

Mr de Klerk said he had put Mr Terreblanche's mind at rest that as long as this government was in power, revolutionary forces would not be able to take over the country.

Mr de Klerk said that, as in any modern state, the power to maintain law and order was in the hands of the government.

He had stated a number of times since assuming office that he was available for discussions across the political spectrum.

The government believed everybody in South Africa—regardless of race—was a South African, with protection needed to be built in for minorities.

He had listened to the views of Mr Terreblanche and Mr van Tonder today—"we listened more than talked"—but "I don't think their policies are very realistic". They also needed to prove that they represented even a "substantial number" of Afrikaners.

Mr de Klerk said he believed the government was succeeding in creating a climate "which will be really conducive to meaningful dialogue", from which could follow "real negotiations".

The government remained unwilling to negotiate with those committed to violence, but would do so with those committed to a peaceful process.

Angola**Government: Detained Namibian Journalist Spy**

*MB111125589 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1255 GMT 11 Nov 89*

[Text] Windhoek Nov 11 SAPA—Angolan Government forces are holding missing Windhoek journalist, Mr Martin Erastus, on suspicion of spying for South Africa, SWABC [South-West African Broadcasting Corporation] radio reports.

According to a report on Saturday FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] (Angolan) Army forces at the Oshikango border post between Angola and Namibia confirmed they were holding Mr Erastus.

Mr Erastus, who worked for the Windhoek Afrikaans Daily, DIE REPUBLIKEIN, went missing in the area on Monday [6 November] while on an assignment.

A former high ranking officer in the SWA [South-West Africa] Territory Forces 101 Battalion, he started work as a journalist in Windhoek at the beginning of this year.

Colleagues reportedly said earlier it was unlikely that Mr Erastus would have crossed the border into Angola unwittingly.

He was reported missing on Monday after his vehicle was found abandoned near the border.

Confirmation of Mr Erastus detention was received by his family this morning from Angola officials at the Oshakango border post, the report said.

The news was received in the presence of an official of UNTAG's [UN Transition Assistance Group] Malaysian Battalion.

Official: UNITA on Verge of Signing Cease-Fire

*MB1011195589 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 10 Nov 89*

[Text] Dr Jorge Valentim, head of UNITA's [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] negotiating team in Paris, says UNITA is on the verge of signing a cease-fire agreement with the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] in Luanda.

Dr Valentim told the SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] by telephone that he had a mandate from UNITA leader Dr Jonas Savimbi to present the movement's negotiating position to politicians and interested parties in Europe.

He said all the major obstacles in the negotiating process had been resolved, including those relating to Angolan elections and the future status of Dr Savimbi himself.

Dr Valentim said, although the Angolan Government and UNITA had agreed to a joint commission for the

purpose of monitoring the truce, the exact composition of the international commission had not yet been decided.

He said he had full authority to sign a cease-fire on behalf of UNITA but that he was waiting for mediator President Mobutu of Zaire to summon both parties to the negotiating table to sign the cease-fire agreement.

Lesotho**Aircraft Crash Kills 12 Defense Force Members**

*MB1011150889 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1421 GMT 10 Nov 89*

[Text] Maseru Nov 10 SAPA—Fifteen Basotho were killed in the rugged Maluti Mountains in the southern Qachasnek District on Friday morning when a light aircraft in which they were travelling crashed.

A spokesman for the Lesotho Government said on Friday the Royal Lesotho Defence Force Spanish 212 Casa aircraft had disappeared shortly after take-off from the Qachasnek airstrip.

The aircraft crashed and there were no survivors.

There were 12 members of the Royal Lesotho Defence Force and a crew of three on board.

The spokesman said a full inquiry into the crash had been ordered by the government as soon as the news reached them.

Maseru Radio Reports

*MB1011162789 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 10 Nov 89*

[Text] The government this afternoon released a statement informing the nation that a government plane crashed this morning after taking off from Qacha's Nek Airport.

The statement further says as soon as investigations have been made, the public will be informed duly.

Malawi**Government Rejects Amnesty International Charges**

*MB111115989 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1125 GMT 11 Nov 89*

[Text] The Government of Malawi has denied allegations made earlier this week that (?prisoners) were being tortured [words indistinct] in the country's jails. A government spokesman said the allegations, made in a report by the London-based human rights organization Amnesty International, were false and unfounded.

Mozambique

MNR Said To Abduct 4 Spanish Sailors 10 Nov

MB1111152589 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1500 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] MNR [Mozambique National Resistance] rebels are reported to have taken four Spanish sailors prisoner.

Spain's state radio says the Mozambican rebels attacked a tug after it helped rescue a fishing boat off the Mozambican coast yesterday.

The radio reports that the captain and cook managed to escape. A news agency report said Spain's Embassy in Maputo is negotiating for the release of the four captured crew members.

Spanish Envoy Confirms Report

MB1111174469 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1730 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] The armed bandits abducted four Spanish sailors in the coastal area of Maganja da Costa, Zambezia Province, last night.

Spanish Ambassador to Mozambique Jaime de Abrisqueta confirmed this to AIM today.

The sailors were abducted when they were trying to salvage their tugboat, which ran aground off the Maganja da Costa coastal area.

The tugboat [words indistinct] on 25 September to take supplies to Spanish boats operating in Zambezia Province's territorial waters, which are rich in crustaceans and other seafood.

Namibia

UN Declares Election 'Free, Fair' as Voting Ends

MB1111180589 Johannesburg Television Service
in English 1800 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Text] The voting process for a constituent assembly in South-West Africa/Namibia has been officially declared free and fair by the UN special representative, Mr Martti Ahtisaari.

The election ended about an hour ago with an expected 98 percent turnout by the country's 701,000 voters, one of the highest in the Western world.

[Begin video recording] [Ahtisaari] This week, the people of Namibia have given the whole world an exemplary lesson in democracy. It has been a privilege for all of us from the UN to participate in this historic process, an experience none of us will ever forget.

I have told the administrator general that I am satisfied that the voting process had been free and fair in accordance with Resolution 435 and have agreed that the

process of counting the votes should go forward once all voting has concluded tonight. I thank you.

[Administrator General Louis Pienaar] I'm convinced that the elections were free and fair. We had some concern a couple of weeks ago when the violence and intimidation reached a certain intolerable level, but since then its calmed down and, during the whole election week, very little of that was seen. In fact, I traveled extensively throughout the country, visiting various polling booths, and I saw none and none were reported to me. Of course, there might have been minor incidents, but none have been reported to me and the police have not brought any of these incidents to my notice.

I am, therefore, convinced, from the point of view of violence and intimidation, we [words indistinct] free and fair elections.

[Unidentified reporter] Are you satisfied with the percentage poll?

[Pienaar] We achieved exceptional results, exceptional for any democracy. When you have a poll reaching into the middle 90's, and I expect eventually to have at the end of the day of some 97 percent, it is really something extraordinary, and I think that the people of Namibia, the voters of Namibia, have certainly made use of the opportunity that they have of expressing their political opinion and exercising their right, democratic right as voters.

No, I am completely satisfied from my point of view. Its been a tremendous success. [end video recording]

Ahtisaari Congratulates Voters

MB1111185089 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1848 GMT 11 Nov 89

[By Neil Lewis]

[Excerpts] Windhoek Nov 11 SAPA—The United Nations special representative, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, on Saturday night said he was satisfied Namibia's five-day election was free and fair and that counting should proceed once all voting ended during the course of the evening.

Mr Ahtisaari made his announcement at a press conference at UNTAG's Headquarters after consultation with the administrator-general (AG), Mr Louis Pienaar. [passage omitted]

"While there have been a few incidents, due mainly to over-enthusiasm, and minor delays, due to the expectedly vast response, especially in the first few days, the process of voting has gone smoothly."

Mr Ahtisaari congratulated Mr Pienaar for the success of the election arrangements and he expressed his appreciation for the hard work and commitment of the AG's staff.

"As for UNTAG's electoral staff and many election supervisors, their dedication, expertise and, indeed, stamina have been an inspiration and beyond praise," said Mr Ahtisaari.

"They have performed in the very highest traditions of the (UN) organisation, and have shown once again how vital the role of the UN is in helping the world's intractable problems.

"I also wish to express my appreciation to all the leaders and political parties of Namibia."

Mr Ahtisaari said, with a few isolated exceptions, the restrained conduct of political campaigns and the admirable co-operation with UNTAG's personnel, electioneering generally had been in accordance with high democratic standards which gave great hope for the future of Namibia, soon to be independent.

"But it is the people of Namibia whom I chiefly wish to congratulate," Mr Ahtisaari said.

"They have patiently waited many years for this opportunity to take their future in their own hands.

"During the campaign, and especially during this week, they have demonstrated vast resources of calm, self-discipline and determination. "This week, the people of Namibia have given the whole world an exemplary lesson in democracy.

"It has been a privilege for all of us from the UN to participate in this historic process—an experience none of us will ever forget."

Meanwhile, several hundred South African taxidivers were given a rousing farewell on Saturday night at the conclusion of the elections here.

The drivers, most of whom had spent the duration of the elections in the north, arrived Tuesday [7 November] night following a "commercial agreement" between the Namibian Organisation and anti-apartheid organisations in South Africa.

The drivers were thanked by SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] secretary-general, Mr Andimba Toivo ya Toivo, who also expressed the hope that the African National Congress and the Pan-Africanist Congress would unite in their bid to free South Africa.

"You are most welcome in Namibia. And we say that the struggle in your country is our struggle. We will not let you down," said Mr Toivo ya Toivo.

Celebrations then began with the drivers being feted with meat and Lion lager beer—ironical considering the beer boycott in South Africa.

Windhoek Radio Reports

*MB1111192489 Windhoek Domestic Service
in Afrikaans 1900 GMT 11 Nov 89*

[Excerpt] The constituent assembly elections ended at 7 p.m., following talks this afternoon in Windhoek between Administrator General Louis Pienaar and UN Special Representative Martti Ahtisaari.

The two parties agreed that voters within a 500 meter radius of the polling stations who still wanted to vote would be allowed to do so before the stations closed.

Ahtisaari told a Windhoek news conference that he informed the administrator general he was satisfied the election was free and fair.

Ahtisaari also said he agreed that the counting of votes should proceed.

He congratulated the inhabitants of the country on their self discipline and [words indistinct] he also congratulated the administrator general and the leaders of political parties. Ahtisaari said UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group] staff proved the essential role of the UN to help solve the world's complicated problems.

Indications are that the polling percentage could reach 98 percent. Ballot boxes will be transported to central points in the 33 electoral districts for counting, which starts on Monday [13 November]. Results are expected Monday afternoon. [passage omitted]

Angolan Army Said To Question, Assault Journalist

*MB1111141089 Johan esburg SAPA in English
1407 GMT 11 Nov 89*

[Text] Windhoek Nov 11 SAPA—The editor of DIE REPUBLIKEIN, Mr Des Erasmus, said in Windhoek confirmation of staffer, Martin Erastus detention in Angola was received from a colleague in northern Namibia on Saturday.

"That he is being held is clear," he told SAPA, "but how he went across we will find out eventually."

Mr Erasmus said a colleague had spoken to Angolan Army soldiers at the Oshikango border post where Mr Erastus was last seen on Monday, and he was told the journalist had been taken deeper into Angola for questioning.

"Our information is that he was taken into Angola, and was allegedly assaulted," Mr Erasmus said, adding he expected further news on the incident later on Saturday.

Earlier reports said Mr Erastus was last seen, in the company of two people, speaking to Angolan soldiers just inside Angola on Monday [6 November].

His abandoned vehicle was later found in the area.

Colleagues said it was unlikely, Mr Erastus, a former high-ranking officer in the now demobilised SWA [South-West Africa] Territory Force's 101 Battalion, would unwittingly cross the border.

Mr Erasmus said Mr Erastus was on a routine round-up of election events in the north when he disappeared.

A spokesman for the department of Foreign Affairs in Windhoek, Mr Erich Blumer, said nothing official had been reported to him by Saturday afternoon.

The Foreign Affairs office in Windhoek was approached earlier in the week to look into the disappearance.

Police spokesman Chief Inspector Kierie du Rand, said Mr Erastus had apparently walked across the border to talk to people when he was apprehended.

It was not known who had detained him, he added.

The area where Mr Erastus reportedly disappeared is an informal border crossing point used constantly by local residents of northern Namibia and southern Angola.

SWAPO's Sam Nujoma Speaks in Windhoek 11 Nov

'Will Fight' for Walvis Bay

AB1111155889 Dakar PANA in English 1410 GMT
11 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek, 11 Nov (ZIANA/PANA)—SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] will fight for the integration of Walvis Bay into mainland Namibia, SWAPO President Sam Nujoma said in Windhoek Saturday.

He told ZIANA [ZIMBABWE INTER-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY] that the South Africans who claim that Walvis Bay was part of the Cape Province were deliberately distorting the history of the territory.

Nujoma said the United Nations had also condemned Pretoria's claims. Namibia was mandated to South Africa by the League of Nations in 1915. Walvis Bay was being governed by the South Africans from Windhoek but only four years ago did they change.

Nujoma said then South Africans had also brought to Namibia their Bantustan policies and created what they called ethnic governments to divide the people.

[Words indistinct] and would ensure that all Namibians encompass a united people.

SWAPO broke the tribal barriers, he said, adding we fought the war as a united people.

Among some of the policies to be implemented immediately would one of reconciliation of all races. [sentence as received] He said there was already a positive response from some whites in Namibia to his call to build a united nation.

However, there are some whites who indicated they would not countenance a SWAPO victory in the elections which are due to end today.

Meanwhile, the Namibian five-day elections continued at a slow pace today with just a few people calling at polling stations in the capital and surrounding suburbs.

Results of the elections are expected by Wednesday [15 November].

Views Government's Tasks

AB1111160589 Dakar PANA in English 1500 GMT
11 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek, 11 Nov (ZIANA/PANA)—The SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] leader, Sam Nujoma, said the immediate task of the new government would be to ensure the country was self-sufficient in food, the ZIMBABWE INTER-AFRICA NEWS AGENCY, ZIANA, reported Saturday.

In an interview with ZIANA, he said the new government would also assist financially, those who wanted to till the land, and people crowded in northern Namibia will have to be resettled.

On multinationals owning much of the private sector in Namibia, he said they would have to enter into partnerships with government.

He said the country at present was just a supplier of raw materials but this situation would have to be reversed. Namibia is endowed with rich minerals such as uranium, diamonds, gold, copper, as well as other natural resources.

He said there was ruthless exploitation of resources by the South Africans which has to be halted.

'Confident' of Victory

AB1111163989 Dakar PANA in English 1415 GMT
11 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek, 11 Nov (ZIANA/PANA)—The South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) president, Sam Nujoma, on Saturday said he was confident of winning the elections due to end in Namibia today.

He told ZIANA [ZIMBABWE INTER-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY] in an exclusive interview at his residence in Katutura suburb, that South Africa created some loopholes in the electoral process to erode a SWAPO victory. SWAPO fought against these and managed to win some.

However, he said people remained loyal to the party and unless new tricks were introduced during the actual counting of votes, SWAPO would win the election.

The elections began Tuesday for a 72-member constituent assembly in which 10 parties are contesting and fielded 720 candidates.

The administrator-general's staff is running the elections under the supervision of UNTAG [United Nations Transition Assistance Group] whose chief, Martti Ahtisaari, will verify whether the elections were free and fair.

Nujoma said that among some of the attempts by South Africa to influence the results of the elections, were the registering of foreigners from South Africa and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] bandits to vote in the election. He called this a criminal act.

He said it was ironic that South Africa found it fit to register its citizens in Namibia on the basis of their having just lived in the territory for four years but it denied the black majority in South Africa the vote.

Vows Liberation Movement Support

AB1111192589 Dakar PANA in English 1428 GMT 11 Nov 89

[Excerpt] Windhoek, 11 Nov (ZIANA/PANA)—A SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] victory in the elections underway in Namibia will not only be for the Namibia people but the whole of Africa and an inspiration for Africans in South Africa still under apartheid, SWAPO President Sam Nujoma said in Windhoek Saturday. [sentence as received]

He told ZIANA [ZIMBABWE INTER-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY] that the independence of Namibia brought closer the eradication of colonialism in Africa. Namibians are going to the polls to vote for a 72-member constituent assembly which would be charged with writing the national constitution as well as form a future government of territory.

Nujoma thanked Frontline States, the OAU and NAM [Nonaligned Movement] and other progressive organizations which rendered support to SWAPO during its 23-year war of liberation.

He pledged to eradicate apartheid in Namibia.

SWAPO's ultimate goal, he added, is to see apartheid eradicated in South Africa and will support liberation movements fighting against South African oppression. [passage omitted]

2d Assembly Representative Elected

MB1311144089 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1434 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek Nov 13 SAPA—SWAPO's [South-West African People's Organization] leader, Sam Nujoma, became the second representative to be elected to the 72-member Namibian constituent assembly.

Mr Nujoma could not be reached for comment on Monday.

Enquiries at SWAPO headquarters were met with a curt reply that Mr Nujoma was not available to speak to the media.

After six results of the 23 voting districts became known, the DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance] retains the lead it gained from the outset.

The alliance now has 15,943 votes of the cumulative ordinary ballot, followed by SWAPO with 12997, the UDF [United Democratic Front] with 4154 and ACN [Action Christian National] with 3322.

There are another 6602 tendered ballots awaiting verification by the central registry in Windhoek.

SWAPO Election Victories Reported 13 Nov

Maltahohe District

MB1311115089 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1020 GT 13 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek Nov 13 SAPA—SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] won most votes in the small Namibian district of Maltahohe with 758 of the ordinary votes recorded.

The DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance] polled 579 votes followed by Action Christian National with 355 votes and the UDF [United Democratic Front] with 334 votes.

There were 2,204 ordinary votes polled and 62 ballot papers were spoilt.

There are an additional 324 tendered votes which have to be verified by the central voters registry in Windhoek.

The percentage poll was 98.29.

Maltahohe is a farming district in sparsely populated southern Namibia that borders the Namib Desert.

Karibib District

MB1311115589 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1147 GMT 13 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek Nov 13 SAPA—SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] of Namibia has polled the most ordinary ballots in the Karibib election district with 1,932 votes, followed by the DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance] with 1,637 votes, the UDF [United Democratic Front] with 1,289 votes and ANC [Action Christian National] with 344.

The total number of ordinary votes cast was 5,467 and 78 ballots were rejected.

The percentage poll was 95.05.

There are an additional 1,066 tendered votes which have to be verified by the central registry in Windhoek.

Karibib is a small farming district in central Namibia bordering Damaraland, which is the stronghold of the UDF.

Tsumeb District

*MB1311141789 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1415 GMT 13 Nov 89*

[Text] Windhoek Nov 13 SAPA—SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] of Namibia has won the most ordinary ballots in the Tsumeb election district with 6476 votes, followed by the DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance] with 3452, UDF [United Democratic Front] with 1085 and ANC [Action Christian National] with 848.

The total ordinary ballot was 12,108 and a further 125 ballots were rejected.

There are an additional 1,688 tendered votes awaiting verification.

The percentage poll was 94.98.

Tsumeb is a copper-mining town that borders Ovambo in northern Namibia, thought to be a SWAPO stronghold.

Luderitz District

*MB1311153889 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1505 GMT 13 Nov 89*

[Text] Windhoek Nov 13 SAPA—SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] of Namibia has won the most votes in the Luderitz election district with 5,422 ordinary votes, followed by the DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance] with 1890 votes, the ACN [Action Christian National] with 453 and the UDF [United Democratic Front] with 342.

The total ordinary ballot was 8466 and a further 22 ballots were rejected.

The percentage poll was 105.3 [as received] and an additional 2814 tendered votes are to be verified in Windhoek.

Luderitz in southern Namibia covers the Skeleton Coast and includes the fishing factories of Luderitz and the Oranjemund Diamond Diggings, areas where SWAPO has strong worker support as reflected in the results.

Ghana

Defense Ministry Releases Subversion Plot Report

AB1011195989 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 10 Nov 89

[Text] The board of enquiry set up to investigate allegations of subversion against Major Courage E.K. Quarshigah and a number of other security personnel has submitted its report to the superior command of the affected military personnel, Major General Mensah-Wood, army commander and member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council]. A summary of evidence and findings has been released by the Ministry of Defence. These are in respect of Maj Courage Quarshigah, Squadron Leader Akakpo, and Flight Lieutenant Domi. Others are: Simon Seblah, Stephen Abokyi, and Joy Cudjoe, all formerly of the Forces Reserve Battalion. The rest are: Alhaji Mohammed Abdullai of the Personal Security Office at the PNDC Headquarters, and Eddy Mends Kpodonu, recently dismissed from the National Investigation Committee.

On Maj Quarshigah, the board found evidence that he actively recruited a number of personnel from the Forces Reserve Battalion and the Military Police to carry out a plot to assassinate the chairman of the PNDC. Being familiar with the personnel of the battalion, and using concern for their accommodation problems as an excuse, Maj Quarshigah invited some of them to discuss his plan. Those recruited included Simon Sablah and Stephen Abochi who were aggrieved over their dismissals from the Forces Reserve Battalion for indiscipline. There is evidence that Maj Quarshigah also approached personnel of the Military Police and attempted to recruit nine men. Major Quarshigah admitted having meetings with the personnel, but claimed that he was carrying out an exercise to test their loyalty and enhance their vigilance. The board found this explanation to be a cunning rationalization which cannot hold water.

There was evidence to the effect that Maj Quarshigah intended the plot to be executed without any trace of his involvement. He had hoped, however, to announce himself as head of state after the deed had been done, and claim he had stepped in to forestall the confusion. During meetings with those he had recruited, Maj Quarshigah disclosed his intentions and informed them that the plot will succeed, and that the oracles had divined that he would become the next head of state.

One of the principal characters, Simon Sablah, who admitted his involvement in the plot, said he and Simon Abokyi, now at large, received sums of money from Maj Quarshigah at various times to enable them to consult their own oracles to satisfy themselves that his destiny to become head of state had been ordained. Those recruited were also informed that some foreign countries had promised to provide more aid to Ghana if he, Maj Quarshigah, became head of state.

He had an inordinate ambition for power, and seemed to see the chairman of the PNDC as the obstacle to the attainment of the position which had been divined by his oracles. The obsession did not end with his arrest, and

even whilst in custody, wrote to the PNDC chairman pleading for the investigations to be discontinued, and for his release from custody. He also pleaded with the chairman of the PNDC to, and I quote, compose a public release and elevate me to a position where we can start all over again, and together run this country, unquote.

At the instance of the chairman of the PNDC, Captain Kojo Tsikata had often cautioned Maj Quarshigah against activities which could erode people's admiration for him. This, as the chairman had explained, was to ensure that he remained a political asset. The chairman had also suggested that Maj Quarshigah be invited and spoken to in the presence of his parents, since it was in his own interest to cultivate an image of humility and respect for other military officers.

On Squadron Leader E.Y. Akakpo, former security coordinator at the Kotoka International Airport, the report established that he was recruited by Flt Lt Domi to participate in a plot to destabilize the government. Even though he had several opportunities to report the plot, he did not do so until after his arrest on 26 September 1989. The board had evidence that Flt Lt William Kofi Domi recruited Squadron Leader Akakpo and collaborated with one Eddy Mends Kpodonu, now at large, who first took him to the house of Maj Quarshigah to discuss the plot. Initially, Flt Lt Domi denied any involvement in the plot, but on the second day of the interrogation, broke down and confessed his active role. He claimed to have been misled by Eddy Mends Kpodonu.

The full summary of the evidence and findings by the Board of Enquiry will be published in the national dailies tomorrow. The Board of Enquiry was chaired by the commandant of the Staff College, and the members were: the commanding officer of the Ghana Military Academy, the director of the Bureau of National Investigations, and the special military coordinator of the National Security Council.

Plotter Committed Suicide 29 Sep

AB1211064589 Paris AFP in English 2325 GMT
11 Nov 89

[Text] Accra, Nov 11 (AFP)—An Air Force officer involved in an plot to destabilize Ghana has committed suicide in his cell, according to a summary of evidence of a board of inquiry which investigated the allegations.

The details of the report published in state-owned newspapers here said Flight Lieutenant William Kofi Domi was found hanging in his cell on September 29, having used his own clothes as a noose.

"A pathologist's report as well as the findings of a separate board composed of two senior Air Force officers and a senior officer of the Bureau of National Investigations confirmed that he had taken his life by hanging," the report said.

Domi, two other officers and a number of security personnel had planned to assassinate Ghana's head of state, Jerry Rawlings. The plotters included Major Courage Quarshigah, a close friend of Rawlings, who had planned to declare himself head of state if the assassination bid had succeeded.

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